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UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: To Be Assigned Group: 2854

Re: Application of: James Brian VROTACOE et al.
Serial No.: 09/767,108
Filed: 01/22/2001
For: FLOW-RESTRICTED PRINTING CYLINDER
FOR A REMOVABLE PRINTING SLEEVE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
BOX: NO FEE

February 28, 2002

Sir:

Please amend the above-referenced patent application prior to examination as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 25, as follows:

Fig. 1 shows schematically a gear side view of a lithographic offset printing press 1 according to the present invention. A web 5 passes between a nip formed by a first sleeve-shaped blanket 12 and a second sleeve-shaped blanket 62, and then through a second nip formed by a third sleeve-shaped blanket 112 and a fourth sleeve-shaped blanket 162. Blanket 12 is mounted axially on a blanket cylinder 10 having flow restrictors, as will be described with respect to Fig. 2, and blanket 62 is mounted axially on a similar blanket cylinder 59. Plate cylinders 8, 58 contact blankets 12, 62, respectively, to provide an inked image to the blankets, the image then being transferred to the web 5.